

SPECIAL EDUCATION SPECIALIST INSTRUCTION CREDENTIAL

Special Education -- definitions from subsection 300.5 of Title 34 of the code of Federal Regulations, Subpart A

- Learning handicapped -- including specific learning disability and mentally retarded (mild)
- Severely handicapped -- including seriously emotionally disturbed, mentally retarded (severely), multi-handicapped, and other health impaired (autistic)
- Communication handicapped -- including speech and language impaired, deaf, deaf-blind, and hard-of-hearing
- Visually handicapped -- including visually handicapped and deaf-blind
- Physically handicapped -- including multi-handicapped, orthopedically impaired, and other health impaired (having limited strength, vitality, or alertness)

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PRELIMINARY CREDENTIAL: Available only to applicants who have completed their special education program outside of California and who have never held a California Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential, or an equivalent teaching credential issued under prior statutes.

- (a) baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution of postsecondary education;
- (b) completion of a professional preparation program in a special education specialist category comparable to a Commission-approved program, including successful completion of student teaching or supervised field study, with a minimum grade of "C" on an A through F grading pattern, but taken outside of California and approved by the appropriate agency in the state where the course work was completed. If the out-of-state program does not meet these requirements, specifically if it is not clear that the out-of-state program is comparable to a Commission-approved program, the applicant should contact a California college or university with a Commission-approved program in the special education area (see list on reverse) for an evaluation for completing the requirements for this credential;
- (c) passage of the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST); and
- (d) written acknowledgment from the applicant and the employing school district that the applicant is responsible for completing the requirements for the Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential, including the student teaching requirement, during the five-year term of the preliminary credential or before another credential authorizing special education instruction will be issued.

As outlined in Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, several California credentials and certificates require an applicant to hold a valid California teaching credential based on a baccalaureate degree and teacher preparation program, including student teaching. This preliminary Special Education Instruction Credential fulfills that Title 5 requirement.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL CLEAR CREDENTIAL:

- (a) baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution of postsecondary education;
- (b) completion of a Commission-approved professional preparation program in one or more special education categories and the recommendation of a California college or university with a Commission-approved program; or completion of a professional preparation program in one or more special education categories comparable to a Commission-approved program, including successful completion of student teaching or supervised field study, with a minimum grade of "C" on an A through F grading pattern, but taken outside of California and approved by the appropriate agency in the state where the course work was completed. If the out-of-state program does not meet these requirements, specifically if it is not clear that the out-of-state program is comparable to a Commission-approved program, the applicant should contact a California college or university with a Commission-approved program in the special education area (see list on reverse) for an evaluation for completing the requirements for this credential; and
- (c) possession of a basic California teaching credential meeting either of the following definitions: (1) a California teaching credential requiring a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university and completion of a professional teacher preparation program including student teaching, or (2) a clear full-time designated subjects credential if the holder also possesses a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university and has passed the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST).

AUTHORIZATION: The Specialist Instruction Credential authorizes the holder to teach in the area of specialization listed on the credential at any grade level; preschool, kindergarten, grade one through twelve, and in classes organized primarily for adults.

TERM: The term of the Preliminary Specialist Instruction Credential in Special Education is five years. The preliminary credential may not be renewed. The term of the Professional Clear Specialist Instruction Credential in Special Education is determined by the expiration date of the prerequisite credential, but may not exceed five calendar years.

NOTE: In order to renew the Professional Clear credential the holder must complete 150 clock hours of planned and approved professional growth activities and the equivalent of full-time service for one-half of one school year on the Professional Clear credential. Please refer to the Professional Growth Manual.

Reference: Education Code Section 44225 and 44265; Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Section 80048.2

**COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN CALIFORNIA
WITH APPROVED SPECIALIST PROGRAMS**

State Colleges & Universities:	LH	SH	PH	CH	VH
CPSU San Luis Obispo	*X	*X			
CSPU Pomona	*X	X			
CSU Bakersfield	X	X			
CSU Chico	*X	*X			
CSU Dominguez Hills	*X	*X			
CSU Fresno	*X	*X		X	
CSU Fullerton	X	X			
CSU Hayward	X	X			
CSU Long Beach	*X	*X			
CSU Los Angeles	*X	*X	X	X	*X
CSU Northridge	*X	*X		X	
CSU Sacramento	X	X			
CSU San Bernardino	*X	*X			
CSU San Marcos	X				
CSU Stanislaus	X	X			
Humboldt State University	X				
San Diego State University	*X	*X	X	X	
San Francisco State University	X	X	X	X	X
San Jose State University	*X	*X		X	
Sonoma State University	X	X			

University of California:

UC Riverside	*X	*X			
UC Riverside extension	X				
UC San Diego extension	X				

Private Colleges and Universities:

Azusa Pacific	X				
California Baptist	X				
California Lutheran	X	X			
Chapman University	X	X			
Fresno Pacific College	X	X	X		
Holy Names College	X				
La Sierra University	X				
Loyola-Marymount University	X				
Masters College	X				
Mount St. Mary's College	X				
National University	X	X			
Pacific Oaks College	X	X			
Point Loma Nazarene College	X				
Simpson College	X				
St. Mary's College	X	X			
Santa Clara University	*X				
University of LaVerne	X				
University of the Pacific	X	X			
University of San Diego	X	X			
University of San Francisco	X				
University of Southern Calif.	X			X	

*= college internship

KEY to approved programs listed on the reverse:

LH = Learning Handicapped
SH = Severely Handicapped
PH = Physically Handicapped

CH = Communication Handicapped
VH = Visually Handicapped